Message

From: Lazos, Pamela [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=15D4F11C6327474BB424A24CBD406E93-PLAZOS]
Sent: 9/8/2021 11:59:40 AM
To: Maslowski, Steven [Maslowski.Steven@epa.gov]; Ahearn, Devon (ENRD) [Devon.Ahearn@usdoj.gov]; Nanda, Sushila [Nanda.Sushila@epa.gov]
Subject: RE: Sediment Vs. TSS

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

From: Maslowski, Steven <Maslowski.Steven@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 07, 2021 4:13 PM
To: Lazos, Pamela <Lazos.Pamela@epa.gov>; Ahearn, Devon (ENRD) <Devon.Ahearn@usdoj.gov>; Nanda, Sushila <Nanda.Sushila@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Sediment Vs. TSS

Here is what I was told by our water quality specialist.

Steve Maslowski
NPDES Section
EPA Region III
215-814-2371

From: Richardson, William <Richardson.William@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, September 07, 2021 4:01 PM
To: Maslowski, Steven <Maslowski.Steven@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Sediment Vs. TSS

TSS is a simple laboratory measurement that can be included in a permit or CD as an end of pipe measurement. If sediment was included as a monitoring parameter upstream sources of sediment would make it difficult to measure compliance.

Bill Richardson (he/him)
Standards and TMDLs Section
U.S. EPA Region 3
215-814-5675
richardson.william@epa.gov

From: Maslowski, Steven <Maslowski.Steven@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, September 01, 2021 3:37 PM
To: Richardson, William <Richardson.William@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Sediment Vs. TSS

Bill,

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP) TSS is one of the most common CSO overflow parameters and that it is primary organics in the water column that does not necessary

settle out as it moves down stream. As where sediments is a primary a stormwater pollution parameter and is inorganic. Also, sediments tend to settle out and float to the bottom of the stream.

Is there anything else that I need to add about why TSS is important?

Steve Maslowski
NPDES Section
EPA Region III
215-814-2371

From: Richardson, William <Richardson.William@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 31, 2021 4:42 PM
To: Maslowski, Steven <Maslowski.Steven@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Sediment Vs. TSS

Sediment and TSS are related but different. In my mind sediment is any material that accumulates on a stream bottom and is normally sand, gravel and silt. States like PA will list streams as impaired due to siltation when there are excess streambed sediments (like Paxton). TSS is a measure of any solids that are suspended in the water column which can include sand, silt, leaves, algae and other solid funk like pieces of toilet paper and organic matter. Normally waters that have high TSS (usually during wet weather) will have siltation issues when the TSS settles out.

How does Capital Region Water propose to monitoring sediment in their LTCP? I would think that TSS is the most straight forward way to evaluate solids coming from a WWTP or CSO. My guess is they want to use sediment as the pollutant to then say the sedimentation issues are occuring in the receiving waters due to upstream stormwater sources and it is not their fault. Upstream MS4s are likely a big source of siltation but I don't see how Capital Water is not contributing to the problem with TSS in their discharge. Also if there is a TSS WLA for them in the Bay TMDL I don't see anyway around it.

Bill Richardson (he/him)
Standards and TMDLs Section
U.S. EPA Region 3
215-814-5675
richardson.william@epa.gov

From: Maslowski, Steven <Maslowski.Steven@epa.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, August 31, 2021 11:40 AM
To: Richardson, William <Richardson.William@epa.gov>
Subject: Sediment Vs. TSS

Bill,

Can you tell me what is the difference between sediment and TSS measurement. Capital Region Water, Harrisburg is using sediment as a pollutant of concern in its LTCP, but they do not want to use TSS. There is a TMDL for the Paxton Creek, which flows into the Susquehanna River for sediment. Also, there is a WLA for TSS in the Chesapeake Bay TMDL for Harrisburg's CSOs. Can you please provide more detail on the difference between the two.

I appreciate your asstiance.

Steve Maslowski
NPDES Section

EPA Region III
215-814-2371